(b) whether these devices amount to frauds and violate various rules of Government; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) No such instance has come to the notice of Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of above.

Economic Development of Manipur

1896. SHRI CHITTA BASU:

SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take special and urgent measures for economic development of Manipur; and

(b) if so, what are the specific steps so far taken in the direction of (i) expansion of railways, (ii) Industrial development, (iii) expansion of road transport, (iv) step-up of agricultural projection and (v) flood control etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Economic development of Manipur is mainly undertaken through the State Plans. As against the Sixth Plan outlay of Rs. 240 crores, the outlay for the Seventh Plan is Rs. 430 crores Not only the entire Seventh Plan is to be funded through Central assistance, even the deficit in State's own resources estimated to be (–) Rs. 115 crores is to be met through Central assistance.

Manipur is a Special Category State. It receives Central assistance for i's plans on liberalised basis *viz.* 90 per cent grant and 10 per cent loan as against 70 per cent loan and 30 per cent grant given to general category States of the country. A number of schemes are also taken up under the North Eastern Council. In addition, additive Central assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan, Central sector schemes and Centrally Sponsored Schemes also go towards the development of the State.

(b) (i) A new Metre Gauge railway line from Silchar in Assam to Jiribam in Manipur for a length of 49 Km. is under construction and is expected to be completed by the end of the Seventh Plan.

(ii) For the industrial development of the State, a number of medium industrial units have been included in the Seventh Plan of the State. The State, being 'A' Category industrially backward area, 25 per cent of the investment of fixed capital is given as Central investment subsidy, subject to a maximum of Rs. 25 lakhs in each case. Additional encouragement is given through provision of transport subsidy. The transport subsidy, to and fro Siliguri, has been raised from 75 per cent to 90 per cent.

(iii) Special attention has been given to the development of infrastructure of roads and road transport. The Seventh Plan outlay of Rs. 71.50 crores on transport sector is more than double the Sixth Plan outlay of Rs. 35 crores on the secor. The road transport fleet has been strengthened and the State Government has been urged to improve the performance of the road transport undertaking.

(iv) The agriculture and allied services sector has been given special emphasis. As against Rs. 28.4 crores Sixth Plan outlay the Seventh Plan outlay for the sector is

Rs. 56.6 crores *i.e.* almost 100 per per cent more than that of the Sixth Plan. The productivity of rice has already become the highest in the North Eastern Region and compares well with the country. Though the intensive measures undertaken to boost agricultural production, the State is likely to become self-sufficient in foodgrains during the Seventh Plan.

(v) The flood problem in Manipur is not a major problem The flood control works are in the nature of construction of embankments and drainage channels.

People below poverty line

1897. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the percentage of population (rural and urban), below the poverty line, as on January 1, 1987, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM): The estimate of the percentage of people below the poverty line as on 1st January, 1987 are not available. The poverty estimate in the Planning Commission are worked out using the National School Survey (NSS data) on household consumption expenditure. The latest data on household consumption expenditure of NSS are available for the year 1983. Based on the 1983 Survey data the State-wise estimates of number and percentage of people living below poverty line have been worked out for Rural/Urban areas for 1983-84 and the details are given in the close Annexure. [See Appendix CXLI Annexure No 79].

Acquittal of Person under Narcotics and psychotropic Substances Act, 1985

1898. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be leased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a Metropolitan Magistrate, Delhi has on 29th January, 1937 acquited one person for processing Ganja because the Notification under the Narcotics, Drugs and Psychotropic Substance Act, 1985 has not been issued by the Government;

(b) whether Government is aware that the said Act, came into effect on 14th November, 1986 till 29th January, 1987, no notification as required under law had been issued by the Government; and

(c) if so the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In view of the traditional use of *Ganja* and its non-prohibition in the States of West Bengal, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh, *Ganja* has been accorded a special status under the Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985. The Government had also entered a reservation while rectifying the single Convention on Narcotic Drugs 1961 to continue non-medical use of *Ganja* by the end of 1989. While a minimum imprisonment has been prescribed for all other narcotics and psychotropic substances, no such minimum has been laid down for Ganja. The notification to be issued by the Government under proviso to section 8 of the aforesaid Act would require to have a uniform application all over India and hence can only be